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CHAOS!
COMICS

COVER A

EVIL ERNIE

IN SANTA FE



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HORLEY

EVIL ERNIE

IN SANTA FE

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ABUSED BY HIS PARENTS AS A CHILD, ERNIE FAIRCHILD'S ANGER GREW INSIDE OF HIM UNTIL HE FINALLY FOUGHT BACK, AND KILLED HIS PARENTS IN A FIT OF RAGE. EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENTS PERFORMED BY ONE DR. PRICE ENDED DISASTROUSLY, ULTIMATELY IMBUING ERNIE WITH AN UNQUENCHABLE THIRST FOR BLOOD, AND SUPERNATURAL POWERS THAT ALLOWED HIM TO TURN THE VICTIMS OF HIS MURDEROUS SPREES INTO HIS OWN ARMY OF ZOMBIES. EVIL ERNIE WAS BORN...

ONE OF ERNIE'S RECENT VICTIMS EARNED HIS EXECUTION FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN A BLACK MAGIC CULT'S HARMING OF CHILDREN, WHICH IS ANATHEMA TO ERNIE. NOW ERNIE IS MAKING A POINT TO FIND MEMBERS OF THIS CULT AND TAKE THEM OUT. THEIR LEADER, KAVAL, TAKES A NUMBER OF THUGS TO KILL ERNIE. HOWEVER, ONLY KAVAL BARELY ESCAPES WITH HIS LIFE, AND RUNS.

ACCOMPANIED BY DET. RIG DANNON, LAYNA, THE DAUGHTER OF DR. PRICE, IS TRACKING ERNIE IN AN ATTEMPT TO PUT AN END TO HIS MURDEROUS WAYS. INEXPLICABLY, LAYNA LEARNS THAT SHE HAS SOME SORT OF TELEPATHIC CONNECTION TO ERNIE, WHICH SHE USES TO TRACK HIM. JUST AS SHE COMES FACE TO FACE WITH ERNIE, THEY ARE ALL SURROUNDED BY THE SANTA FE POLICE, WHO THREATEN TO SHOOT ANYONE THAT MOVES...

THE SLAUGHTER OF SANTA FE CONTINUES...

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DON'T
SHOOT! I'M A
DETECTIVE!

IT'S NOT US
YOU WANT--IT'S
HIM! THAT'S ERNIE
FAIRCHILD--

*EVIL
ERNIE, THE
SERIAL
KILLER!*

LOOKS MORE
LIKE SOMETHIN'
THAT'S ESCAPED
FROM A *FREAK
SHOW!*



CLIFF HIM. ANYBODY
SO MUCH AS *MOVES*,
THEY'LL BE ANSWERIN'
QUESTIONS IN THE
MORGUE!

EXTEND
YOUR WRISTS.

HUH?
THERE'S
SOMEBODY
IN THE
BUSHES!

COME OUT
OR I SHOOT!

YOU WERE
WARNED!

WHA...?

EXTEND YOUR
WAY OUT OF THIS.
SUCKER!

AAAAH!
MY ARM--
HE'S CUT OFF
MY ARM!

BOOM!
BOOM!

AAAAH!

JESUS! IT'S
A LITTLE
GIRL!

BASTARD!
I'LL MAKE
YOU PAY--

THUK

WA-BLAN!

Y-YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
WHAT THE HELL
ARE YOU...?

A GUY
WITH A
BEEF.

A
REALLY
BIG
BEEF!

WHIOMP!

KRUNCH!

WHIOMP

CRUNCH

KRAK!
KRAK!



GOT
WORK TO
DO, LADY.

I'LL BE
THINKIN'
OF YOU.



IT'S ALL RIGHT,
HONEY. YOU'RE SAFE
NOW. COME ON--
TELL ME WHAT
YOU'RE DOING
HERE..?



THREE DEAD--
AND THIS ONE'S
LOSIN' A RIVER
OF BLOOD!



WILL
THEY TURN
INTO *ZOMBIES*?
ERNIE ONLY KILLED
ONE OF THEM
DIRECTLY.

I DON'T
KNOW. BUT WE
CAN'T TAKE ANY
CHANCES.

THERE'S A
CAN OF *GAS*
IN THE CAR
TRUNK.

MEDICS REQUIRED.
YOU GOT OFFICERS
DOWN!

SQUARKE
WHO IS THIS?
WHAT--

NEVER
MIND. JUST GET
MEDS TO "KAVAL'S
AUTHENTIC
ARTIFACTS"
FAST!

WE'LL DROP
THE GIRL OFF AT
THE HOSPITAL.
THEN--

BACK ON THE
MADMAN'S TRAIL?
I'LL TELL YOU, WE
BETTER FINISH
HIM SOON--

'COS THE
BODIES ARE
SURE PILIN' UP
BEHIND US!



IT'S GONNA
BE A SCORCHER,
ERN!

WEIRD TO
THINK LIFE STILL
GOES ON IN A
FURNACE LIKE
THIS.

LIFE
AND LOVE,
SMILEY.

YOU WANNA FORGET THAT LOVE
CRAP, PAL. EVERY TIME YOU LOVE
SOMEBODY, YOU GET BETRAYED.
HELL, THAT BABE AT THE
WITCHDOCTOR'S TURNED
YA IN!

DAMES?
TAKE MY WORD
FOR IT, ERN...
THEY'RE
POISON!

YOU GOT
A LOT OF
EXPERIENCE,
SMILEY?

HEY, I BEEN
AROUND ENOUGH T'
KNOW YOU AIN'T A
TYPICAL SINGLE WHITE
MALE. NOT BEIN' RUDE
OR NOTHIN', BUT CHICKS
DON'T EXACTLY FALL
AT YER FEET...

...UNLESS
YER KILLIN'
THEM, I
GUESS!



GRANDFATHER
SKINWALKER--



ALL MY
LIFE I HAVE
FOLLOWED YOUR
WAYS. YOU HAVE
NEVER FAILED
ME.

GIVE ME
**STRENGTH AND
GUIDANCE**, THAT
I MAY **DEFEAT**
THE ONE WHO
PURSUES
ME.



I UNDERSTAND.

A **SKINWALKER**
WILL WIN THE
DAY.



MR.
FORGE..?

IT'S **KAVAL**.
I'M AT MY PLACE
IN THE DESERT. THE
GIRL IS GONE--AND
EVIL ERNIE IS
FOLLOWING ME!

HE KNOWS
NOTHING ABOUT
ME?

NOT
FROM **MY**
LIPS.

TONIGHT'S CEREMONY MUST GO AHEAD. WAIT WHERE YOU ARE.

I'LL SEND SOMEONE TO PICK YOU UP.

OOH, DADDY! THIS PICTURE'S HORRIBLE!

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO COME IN HERE, MELANIE.

THEY'RE ONLY *BOOKS*, DADDY. WHO IS HE, ANYWAY?

HIS NAME'S *ZABUDEL*. HE'S AN... OLD FRIEND OF MINE.





A LONG TIME
AGO, WHEN DADDY
WAS A *POOR MAN*,
HE ASKED ZABUDEL
FOR *HELP*.

IT'S THANKS
TO HIM THAT WE HAVE
THIS FINE MANSION, *THE
FASTWAYS FRANCHISE*,
ALL OUR MONEY, AND
PEOPLE TO LOOK
AFTER US.



AND HE HELPED
YOU FOR NOTHING?
HE'S *NICE*!

NOT
FOR NOTHING,
SWEETHEART.
I *OWE* HIM.



AND I HAVE
TO PAY HIM HIS
PRICE, TEN YEARS
AFTER OUR *BARGAIN*
WAS STRUCK.



TONIGHT.



HOW YOU ABLE
TO FOLLOW THIS
CREEP ANYWAY,
ETN?



DUNNO.
WISPS OF
DARKNESS
HANG IN THE
AIR.

Y' MEAN...
MAGIC?

DUNNO.



YOU DON'T LIKE MAGIC,
RIGHT, BRO? YOU DON'T
WANNA GO BACK TO THOSE
DARK PLACES.

AN' I SAY
AMEN t' THAT! BETTER
YOU SORT YOURSELF OUT
BEFORE WE GET AN ARMY
OF ZOMBIES MARCHIN'
IN STEP BEHIND US!



BOY, WILL
THAT BE ONE
HAPPY DAY!





DID YOU SEE THAT **GREEN GLOW?** AND HIS **RIBS...?**



MAN, WHAT THE HELL WAS **THAT** ALL ABOUT?

MAYBE SHOOTING HIM WON'T STOP HIM. MAYBE HE'S THE SAME AS THE **ZOMBIES**-- WE'D HAVE TO CUT OFF HIS **HEAD**, OR **BURN** HIM!



ONE BURGER AND FRIES. SURE YOU WON'T EAT, MA'AM?

COFFEE'S FINE, THANKS.



FROM WHAT THE GIRL TOLD US, I'M SURE KAVAL WANTED HER AS A HUMAN SACRIFICE. THERE MUST BE ANOTHER **NAME**--

BUT I'M NOT FINDING IT!



NOT YET, ANYWAY.



SEE? I WARNED YOU FASTWAYS FOOD IS **TOXIC!**



DID YOU
SEE THE LOGO?
THE FASTWAYS
BOSS IS THE OTHER
GUY LOWELL
MENTIONED!

IT'S
GREAT,
FOLLOWIN'
A PLAN.

GIVES
ME A REAL
SENSE OF
PURPOSE!

WRRRRRMMMMMM

THE TRUCK...
FORGE'S MAN
IS HERE!

YOU SEE
WHO I SEE, EYEN
MEISTER?

CLEAR AS
GLASS,
SMILEY.

PUCKER UP,
WITCHDOCTOR...

HEY! WHERE'D
HE COME FROM?!

THE
ZOMBIE!

YOU GOT
A SPECIAL
DELIVERY!

NO!



DON'T
BOTHER GETTIN'
UP, GEEK...

YOU'RE ONLY
GOIN' DOWN
AGAIN!

UH OH! THE
TRUCK...!

WHOMP!

AGAIN,
YOU FOOL!

HIT HIM
AGAIN!



BETTER
BE QUICK,
BUD!

OR, AS I
BELIEVE THEY SAY
IN CHINA...

CHOP
CHOP!

SCHLUNK

GHULKK!

WHY DON'T
YOU TRY IT?

PAST
PERFORMANCE
IS NO GUIDE TO
FUTURE VALUE,
PAL!

HELLO.

FOOL!
MY *CORPSE-
DUST* CRIPPLED
YOU BEFORE--

GAAAAH!





YOU KNOW
HOW THEY SAY
TOO MUCH SUN
IS BAD FOR
THE SKIN?

OLE'
ERNIE'S HERE
TO HELP YOU
WITH THAT,
TONTTO!



DIDN'T YOU LIKE IT?

UH... JUST NOT HUNGRY, REALLY.



NO GOOD. WHOEVER THE **NEXT LINK** IN THE CHAIN IS, KAVAL AND LOWELL KEPT HIS NAME **QUIET!**

I GUESS WE JUST ROOT AROUND TILL WE PICK UP ERNIE'S TRAIL AGAIN.



I'M TOO CLOSE TO THAT **MILLION-BUCK REWARD** TO LOSE IT NOW! THERE'S STILL ONE WAY WE MIGHT FIND HIM--

DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU MADE SOME SORT OF **CONTACT** WITH THE FREAK? LIKE **TELEPATHY?**

YES... BUT...



TRY IT NOW.

I... I **CAN'T**. I DON'T KNOW **HOW**.

JUST TRY IT!



LET YOUR MIND REACH OUT. WHEREVER ERNIE FAIRCHILD IS...



YOU CAN FIND HIM!





OH MY
GOD!

...HELP
ME...

PLEASE...
HELP ME!



THINK
IT SUITS ME,
SMILEY?

LIKE A
SECOND SKIN,
DUDE!

SO...
THE CHICKS'LL
DIG ME NOW,
RIGHT?

THAT'S A
HARD ONE. SEE,
AS A RULE, BABES
ARE A BIT MORE
SQUEAMISH THAN YOUR
AVERAGE GUY.

BUT IN THE
RIGHT COMPANY,
YOU'D BE DA
BOMB!



I *KNOW* WHERE
HE'S GOING
NEXT!

THERE'S
NOT MUCH
TIME! HE'S
GOT
WHEELS!



YOU
UP FOR
THIS,
SMILEY?

I'M
BUZZIN',
PAL!



THEN LET'S GO
GET US SOME
DIVE-THRU!

NEXT ISSUE: FAST FOOD, SLOW COOKIN'!

YOU'LL ALWAYS HAVE A FIEND IN ME!

EVIL ERNIE

IN SANTA FE



*What do thirty-odd satanists, a corrupt businessman, and a demon of the underworld have in common?
They're about to run into the killer who makes them look like a church choir—EVIL ERNIE!*



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ALAN GRANT • TOMMY CASTILLO • COVER BY ALEX HORLEY

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